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Nazareth Academy brings in speakers for Social Justice Week

By Cynthia Yantz Nazareth Academy

In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus read from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. On it was written: "He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind; to set free the oppressed " (Luke 4:18).

This reading describes well the purpose of Nazareth Academy's celebration of Social Justice Week, held February 23-27. Throughout the week, every religious studies class attended special presentations made by members of the community on a variety of subjects, including the feminization of poverty, AIDS, disability, Central America, and nonviolence and peace making. The object of bringing this information to high school students was to help them understand vital issues of today, by acknowledging social sins,

helping others to become aware of them and joining together to correct them.

The theme of the first day's workshops was "The Feminization of Poverty." Guest speakers included Sister Eileen Conheady. director of More Options Really Exist (M.O.R.E.), a program of the Catholic Family Center. Sandra Tompken from the Rochester Area Children's Collaborative and Denise Young, a representative of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, also contributed to the program. Students came away feeling generally shocked by much of the information presented. Discussions included the condition of health care in the United States, as well as what the U.S. government is not doing in terms of human services.

The second day's program on AIDS was

Cardinal Mooney High School

What is the most challenging thing about

MARYBETH PROGNO, senior

The most chal-

lenging thing for me

as a teenager is to be

my own leader. There

are so many pressures

put on us, and some

kids won't take on

the challenge to say

being a teenager today?

one of the most interesting and beneficial overall. Sister Alice Robeson from AIDS Rochester showed a video giving essential information about the deadly disease. The video left students with a healthy fear of future sexual relationships and sparked many questions about dealing with AIDS victims.

A program about the "differently abled" was a new experience for many students. Participants in the presentation included Ann Parsons, Sherry Faw, Frank O'Donnell, Maureen Havens, Erma Baldwin and Pleasance Koegler. Students were surprised at how these men and women could make jokes about their "disabilities." It gave all of us something to think about, as each person related experiences of his or her life.

Students were given a glimpse of life and politics in Central America, when community members shared their experiences in Central American countries. Donna Del-Santo, Sister Beatrice Ganley, Sister Kathleen Weider and Suzanne Wells all helped to make the presentation a success.

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The final day of Social Justice Week brought together everything that the students had been exposed to over the course of the week. Sister Christine Wagner, Cyndi Sangre and Jack Spula all emphasized peace and nonviolence.

The week was aimed at making students aware of some of the critical issues concerning society today. After acknowledging that problems exist, we need to deal with them in a peaceful, nonviolent manner. All of us need to involve ourselves in working towards a better community -- locally, nationally and worldwide.

munication and teach their children the

morals of sexual education. Parents

should create an environment in which

children do not feel inhibited about

discussing openly all aspects of sex. When

parents decide to have children, they know that someday they will have to

teach their children values; all values,

including sexual values, should begin to

be developed at an early age. If the

parents wait too long, then their children

epidemic of unwanted pregnancies if

parents gave the proper information and

instilled proper values in their children.

Perhaps there would not be such an

the business department, and Penny Sayles

and Marilyn Zientara, members of the

operation of Mooney's bookstore, "The

Store," and in a district business competi-

tion. Club members plan on more competi-

The FBLA has already taken part in the

can grow up very confused.

business department faculty.

tions in April and July.



By Michelle Bartholomy and Christine Schirmer Cardinal Mooney High School

Where should the morality of sex be taught? Who should teach it? For years, the schools have been teaching the mechanics of sex, which is good, but where does the morality come in? How does one know what is right and when it is right?

Sex should not be treated as an unspeakable subject. The curiosity of young adolescents will peak, and they will be on their way to discovering life alone.

That's where the parents come in. Their obligation is to open the lines of com-

Cardinal Mooney students forming business leaders' club

Cardinal Mooney High School recently formed a Furture Business Leaders of America Club. Newly elected officers are: Katie Dougherty, president; Alison Enright, vice president: Donna Hanley, secretary; Rob Eberts, treasurer; Andy Statt, reporter/historian; and Sharon Mitchell, parliamentarian.

Advisers are Judy Hunley, chairwoman of

Mission Bazaar planned at Our Lady of Mercy High School

"All of Us Can Do Something" is the theme of this year's Mission Bazaar at Our Lady of Mercy High School. Proceeds from the event will go to St. Joseph's House of Hospitality; the Mercy High School Scholarship Fund; the Basilian Fathers' mission in Texas; the Mercy mission in Santiago, Chile;

the Jesuit mission in China; and the Rochester Interfaith Jail Ministry. The annual event will begin with a

spaghetti supper at 5 p.m. on Friday, March 27. followed by the bazaar at 6:30 p.m. Call (716)288-7120 for information.



AMY QUINN, senior The most challenging thing is the challenge to be yourself and stand up for what you believe. If teenagers did this, many of the problems that are attributed to

them would be avoided. Accepting the challenge to do what is right would certainly make our generation a better one.

SUE BURGMASTER, senior

I feel that the greatest challenge that I will be facing is going out on my own to college. I will be breaking away from my high school friends

- starting over, meeting new people, accepting harsher responsibilities. I won't have my family with me for that security and support.

DENA LoBIANDO, senior The most challenging thing about being a teenager is trying to prove to adults that we can be trusted, are willing to





do the right thing.

to be trusted as an adult. It's a difficult transition to finally

"no" and not go along, and therefore

may never know how good it can be to

handle responsibilities without abusing them.

LYNNE DeFILIPPO, senior

The most challenging thing is being yourself, and most teenagers are just starting to find out who they are. There are pressures to be

this way, to dress that way and talk another way. So trying to

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